K-175
Massey Mill, Gilpin's Mill, Higman Mill
Old Grist Mill, Millington Mill
Millington
Private

1760

Gilpin's Mill was built in 1760 by Daniel Massey and remained in use for 200 years. The brick walls of the structure rise three and one-half stories from the banks of the Chester River. The power for grinding was supplied by a wrought iron overshot wheel which was turned by water from the mill pond behind the structure. This is the third type of wheel used: the first, a wooden overshot type was replaced by a turbine or sidewheel. Milling machinery and stone mill wheels remain in place.

MADVI AND HISTORICAL TRUST

	ARYLAND HISTORICAL T RMINATION OF ELIGIBILI		NR Eligible	no	
operty Name: Massey Mill (Gilpin's Mill	1)	Inventory Numb	er: K-175		
Address: 214 Sassafras Street (MD 313)		Historic district:	yes	Х	no
City: Millington, MD	Zip Code: 21651	County:	Queen Annes		
USGS Quadrangle(s): Millington					
Property Owner: Mary Selles	1	ax Account ID Nu	ımber:		
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 128	Tax Map Numbe	er: 400			
Project: MD 313 over Chester River Bridge	Replacement Agency	: FHWA/SHA			
Agency Prepared By:					
Preparer's Name:		Date Prepared:			
Documentation is presented in: Project revi	iew and compliance files				
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation:	X Eligibility recommended	E	Eligibility not re	comme	nded
Criteria: X A B X C D	Considerations: A B	C D	Е	F	G
	ributing or non-contributing resource				
	Millington Survey District		, ,		
Inventory Number: K-684	Eligible: X yes	List	ed: yes	_	
te visit by MHT Staff ves	(no Name:		Date:		
	(no Name:		Date:		
Description of Property and Justification: (P) Massey Mill (also Gilpin's Mill or Higman M) last half of the twentieth century to convert the following the mill's closing in the 1950s. The (MD 313). The Massey Mill is considered a eligible for inclusion in the National Register The Massey Mill is a former flour and grist m early 1960s). The original mill includes the 2 milling equipment in the interior. The metal probably early 20th century) photos and show was converted to a house and studio in 1966 continued to make alterations. The mill race northbound MD 313 when the current bridge "Historic Houses of Kent County" by Michael north end of the north addition with a large of	Please attach map and photo) (ill) is a mid-eighteenth century structure building at an artist's studio and there is building stands on the south side of the contributing element to the Millington of Historic Places in 1998 by MHT. (initial which was in operation from 1763) (2-story red-painted brick mill building hipped roof, board-and-batten additionally a California cartoonist. Since then shas been filled in, and some of the information was constructed in 1961. There are not the consumer (1998) has a photograph.	until 1954 (some r with an exterior m n on the north end a e mill complex. M several owners hav ill occurred when S o photographs incl	ated several time d a single family ast side of Sassa 4-684 which was reports indicate a tetal water whee appears in undata filling ceased in the occupied it and SHA added fill a form 1996. The	dwelling fras Strass determinates as late a land strass ded (but 1954, and have along HP, althuis show	ng reet nined as the ome it and it ough wys the
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Reviewer, National Register Program

Page 2

orch on a brick foundation and three windows in the north elevation (2 on the first floor and one in the second story) and one in the 1st floor west elevation. The present owner has converted the northern portion of the mill to apartments, and added multiple windows and doors on the west and north sides of the building. The exterior is now clad in aluminum board-and-batten siding, but it retains the standing seam metal roof. The present mill building was rebuilt in 1872 following a fire that year that damaged portions of the 1763 building. Interior access was not possible during the field visit.

Based on the alterations that have occurred, historic integrity of design, workmanship, and materials have been lost and SHA recommends that the Massey Mill is not individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria A (events) or C (architecture). However, it is a contributing resource to the Millington Survey District becuazse of its long association with Millington, and is representative of the mills in Kent County, under NRHP Criterion A (events). NRHP Criterion D was not investigated as part of this study.

The boundary for the Massey Mill is confined to the Tax Parcel limits shown on Kent County Tax Map 400 for Parcel 128. 9 acres are included in this survey.

Sources consulted:

Adams, Douglas, "Forgotten Mills of Millington, Only One Still Grinds of Six Which Stood 100 Years Ago," The Baltmore Sun (July 7, 1938) p. 9

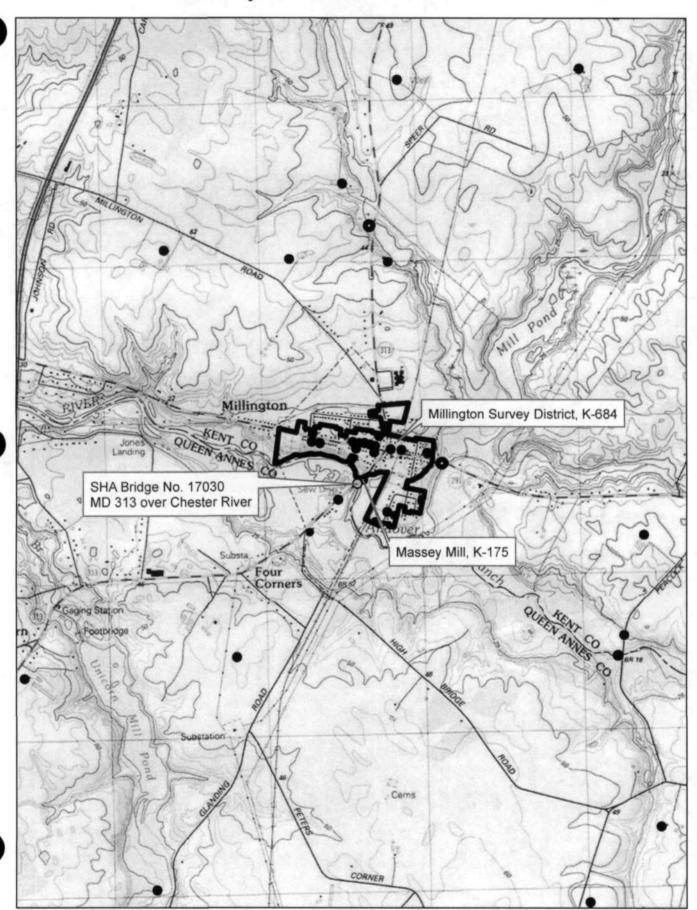
Bourne, Michael O, "Historic Houses of Kent County, An Architectural History: 1642-1860," Chestertown, MD: The Historical Society of Kent County, Inc. (1998)

Fritz, Marsh L. Massey Mill Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, K-175, on file at MHT Library (1977)

Maryland State Highway Administration, Millington Survey District Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, MIHP No. K-684, on file at MHT Library (1998)

MARYL	AND HISTO	ORICAL	TRUST	REVI	EW							
Eligibilit	y recommen	ded		Eligibility not recommended								
Criteria:	A	B	C	D	Considerations:	A	В	C	D	E	F	G
MHT Co	Review	er, Offic	e of Pres	servatio	on Services			Date				
-	Revie	wer, Na	tional Re	egister l	Program	-		Date				

Location Map Massey Mill, MIHP No. K-175



Maryland State Highway Administration Cultural Resources Section Photo Log

Project No.: QA484B21

Project Name: MD 3113 over Chester River (SHA Bridge No. 1703000)

MIHP No.: K-175

MIHP Name: Massey Mill

County: Kent

Photographer: Anne E. Bruder

Date: March 27, 2012

Ink and Paper Combination: Epson UltraChrome pigmented ink/Epson Premium Luster Photo

Paper

CD/DVD: Verbatim, CD-R, Archival Gold

Image File Name	Description of View			
K-175 2012-03-27 01.tif	Massey Mill, looking south at north and west elevations			
K-175 2012-03-27 02.tif	Massey Mill, east elevation			
K-175 2012-03-27 03.tif	Massey Mill, water wheel on east side of building			
K-175_2012-03-27_04.tif	Massey Mill, looking northwest at south and east elevations			



K-175 MAGGEN MU KENTICO. NID BULLER 3-1-12-MDEAPO. LOULING STANA I DITY & WHEN FLEIKITIONS.



K-175 MASSERY Mile KENT (O, MD. BRUIGE 3-27-12 MOSAPO EAT ELEVATION 2/4



K-175 WASSEL Mill KENT CO. ND. BOULDER 307-12 MDGNPD WATER LONES ON EXST SIDE OF PHILDING



X-175. MASSEY Mile KENT COMMO FRUDOR 3-27-12 MDSHO. SOUTH E EXETTER HATIONS.

S. Old State of Land

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME			
Massey Mill, Gilpin's Mill,	Higman Mill		
AND/OR COMMON	1128		
Old Grist Mill, Millington	Mill		
2 LOCATION			9-
STREET & NUMBER			
South of traffic light, on	the Chester Ri	ver	
CITY, TOWN	one ones oer ne	CONGRESSION	AL DISTRICT
Millington	VICINITY OF	First	
Marvland		COUNTY	
_		Kent	
3 CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	CTATUS		DDECENTURE
_DISTRICT _PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	400000	PRESENT USE
X BUILDING(S) XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	AGRICUL	
STRUCTUREBOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIO	
SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTA	
_OBJECT _IN PROCESS	_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNM	
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BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTR	IAL TRANSPORTATI
4 OWNER OF PROPERTY	YES: UNRESTRICTED XNO	INDUSTR	35 De 200
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4 OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Lee Bramble (Mr. & Mrs.) STREET & NUMBER		_MILITARY	x _{OTHER} Barr
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

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X ORIGINAL SITE

_GOOD

__RUINS

__MOVED DATE__

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One of the earliest structures remaining in the town of Millington is the old grist mill which stands on the north bank of the Chester River. Constructed in the 1760's, by Daniel Massey, the mill was operated until the 1960's.

At the time the building was constructed the town was appropriately called "Head of Chester" for here, nearly 37 miles from the Bay. the river is little more than a tidal stream.

The old brick building is two and one-half stories high; the river bank drops off on the south gable making this elevation a full story taller. The building is covered with a steep gable roof with ridge running north and south. Brick walls are laid in one four English bond, now painted barn red.

Two entrances into the brick building remain; one on the center of the west wall facing the street has a batten Dutch door set in a heavy, pegged wooden frame. The only other opening in this facade is a small window above the door. A second entrance is centered in the north gable; this wide door which once lead outside now serves to connect the mill with a later addition.

Windows are placed irregulary throughout perhaps to respond to demands of the milling operations. In general they are small square openings, with an occasional 6/6 window, including two in the full story basement on the south facade. One other 6/6 window in this facade on the first floor may have been a door, although it is now several feet above ground level.

The wrought iron overshot mill wheel is located on the east side of the mill. Two 6/6 windows provide a view over the wheel and mill race. The second floor has a small central window and the

attic is lit by a large shed dormer facing east.

A two story hip roofed addition was constructed on the north wall during the late 19th or early 20th century. It has board and batten exterior sheathing and standing seam tin roof. It now contains the main entrance to the mill, a large, double batten door. The door opening has clipped corners, reflecting the building's corner braced post and beam structural system. Windows with 6/6 sash flank the door and a single window is centered above the door.

The dimly lit interior has one room on each of the four floors. This is an example of an early form of industrial building with few comforts and no decorative detailing. There is no evidence of a fireplace in the old mill, only a stove in the later addition.

Floors of the brick mill are framed with large poplar logs stripped of their bark but left round. Floors are of thick pine planks. The newer frame addition has evenly sawn fir structural members and pine partitions. Ladder stairs near the north entrance provide access from floor to floor in the brick portion.

One of the most interesting aspects of the mill is the old milling machinery, including mill stones, which remain inside.

Machinery bears the name "Salem."

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X_COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
	INVENTION		
	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC _AGRICULTURE X_ARCHITECTURE _ART X_COMMERCE	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORICCOMMUNITY PLANNINGARCHEOLOGY-HISTORICCONSERVATIONAGRICULTUREECONOMICS X_ARCHITECTUREEDUCATIONARTENGINEERING X_COMMERCEEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENTCOMMUNICATIONSINDUSTRY	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORICCONSERVATIONLAWAGRICULTUREECONOMICSLITERATUREARCHITECTUREEDUCATIONMILITARYARTENGINEERINGMUSICCOMMERCEEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENTPHILOSOPHYCOMMUNICATIONSINDUSTRYPOLITICS/GOVERNMENT

SPECIFIC DATES

1760

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Daniel Massey

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The old mill attributes its significance to its architecture and to its long history as the home of one of the town's leading commercial enterprizes.

Architecturally simple, it is a fine example of the effects of industry on building form. Problems of the need for delivery and processing of large amounts of grain, storage, and most significantly, access to power are solved here in a prototypical and efficient way. That the building served its original function for almost 200 years, adapting to changing technology, is a credit to its designer and builder. Excerpts from, "The Molinography of Kent County" by John McGrain, record the history of this fascinating structure.

"The Old Higman Grist Mill is located at the head of Chester River on Md. 313 next to the bridge. It was built in 1760 by Daniel Massey and sold to Thomas Gilpin soon after. It stood on a tract of land originally granted to Josiah Massey. This is the last of six mills which once stood within 3 miles of "Head of Chester." (The name of Millington in the late 18th century) Three story brick building has beams in the first floor ceiling shows a long gash down the side, said to have been caused when the second floor was overloaded with grain when the building was being used as a granary, reputedly, to stockpile during the War of 1812. A large iron strap along the pond side of the mill restrains a wall bulged by overloading. Lettering scratched on the highway side shows highwater mark of 1804 when Chester River rose to within a few inches of first floor, 14 feet above normal level. The mill run and a small stream nearby feeding into it make up the Chester River at the point. mill run, or race, originally wound 3/4 of a mile around the town to the large ponds near the community baseball diamond and was in There was a traveler's tradition some places the town boundary line. of throwing coins and small objects into the mill race on the way to Massey, (the next town north of Millington). The first wheel was the wooden overshot type, later replaced by turbine or sidewheel. A metal wheel (still in place although rusted) was installed 1923. A steam engine was used for auxiliary power in times of low water.

The mill burned in 1872 and was rebuilt. It is shown as J. Wesley Jarman's Millington Merchant Mills in the atlas of 1877. In 1905 (or 1904) it was deeded to James E. Higman and operated

K-175

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

McGrain, John, "The Mtlinography of Kent County," 1st draft, 9/1967. Baltimore County Historical Society, March, 1971.

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	CLSSAKI
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPER	TIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY
11 FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE When the Bridge Grant I and	
Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant	DATE
Kent County Historical Society	August, 1977
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Church Alley	* 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Chestertown	Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

7 Continued

The wrought iron mill wheel is about 6 feet wide. It is located on the east side and was installed in 1923 to replace an earlier wheel in the same location.

The structure, now deterioriating and showing signs of termite and water damage, is vacant. A valuable document of the life and architecture of a town and a region, it is certainly worthy of careful preservation.

8 Continued

by John and Harry Higman until sold in 1946 to Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bauer, owners of Mill House next door, at that time.

Although milling supposedly declined in Millington after 1872 fire according to the WPA Guide, p. 413, the building was in use as a mill until the 1960's. Two brothers, Robert and Dorn O'Dell were grinding flour in 1950 and were the subject of an article, "186-Year-Old Mill Keeps Grinding on in Maryland," in the New York Herald Tribune, of February 26. The mill race was filled in, 1962, in building new bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Gary H. Moomey purchased the building June 1966; Mooney was a carto-onist from California and had a studio in the mill. The pond was occupied by swan.

EXCEPT FROM "THE MOLINOGRAPHY OF KENT CO. " (IST DRAFT) BY K-175 JOHN MCGRAIN, BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SCHETY, MARCH 1971. MILLINGTON MILLS (1)

- A feed mill for the poultry industry, Millington Mills, is in 1967 phone book.
- 2. An alfalfa drying mill is pictured in Living in Kent County, Md., State Department of Education publication, 1954.
- 3. The OLD HIG AN GRIST MILL, located at the head of Chester River on Md. 313 next to the bridge. It was built in 1700 by Daniel Hassey and sold to Thomas Gilpin. It stood on a tract of land originally granted to Josiah Massey. This is the last of six mills which once stood within 3 miles of Head of Chester . . town. Three story brick building with beams haved roughly from tree trunks. Fitted with wooden pegs. One of the beams in the first-floor ceiling shows a long gash down the side, said to have been caused when the second floor was overloaded with grain when the building was being used as a granary during the war of 1812 to stockpile food. A large iron strap along the pond side of the mill restrains a wall bulged by overloading. Lettering scratched on the highway side shows highwater mark of 1804 when Chester River rose to within a few inches of first floor, l4 feet above normal level. The mill run and a small stream nearby feeding into it make up the Chester diver at the point. The mill run, or race, originally wound 3/4 of a mile around the town to the large ponds near the community baseball diamond and was in some places the town boundary line. There was a travelers' tradition of throwing coins and small objects into the mill race on the way to Massey. The first wheel was the wooden overshot type, later replaced by turbine or sidewheel. A metal wheel was installed 1923. Never stopped by ice or cold. steam engine was used for auxiliary power in times of low water. The mill burned in 1872 and was rebuilt. Shown as J. Wesley Jarman's Millington Merchant Mills in atlas. In 1905 (or 1904) it was deeded to James E. Higman and operated by John and Harry Higman until sold in

MILLINGTON (Continued)

1946 to Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bauer, owners of Mill House. Migman had been miller for Biscoe Mill in Queen Anne County. Milling supposedly declined in Millington after 1872 fire, MPA Guide, p. 413. "Robert O'Dell, an ex-GI is the current owner," He and brother, Dorn O'Dell were grinding flour, "186-Year-Old Mill Keeps Grinding on in Maryland," New York Herald Tribune, February 26, 1950. Mill race was filled in, 1962, in building new bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Gary H. Mooney purchased mill in June 1966; Mooney is a cartoonist from California and has a studio in mill. Pond with swans. "The Old Mill," by F.C. Martin, The Kent Shoreman, Earlesville, October 1967. Line drawing in Mistoric Landwarks of Delaware and the Eastern Shore, Betty Marrington Landwarks of Delaware State Society of Daughters of American Colonists, 1963.

- 4. The 1795 map shows Justices Mill at Bridgetown, the present Millington.
- 5. The J.H. Pennington Mill is shown upriver east of Millington in atlas.
- 6. The 1887 directory lists Millington millers as J. Wesley Jarman and J.E. Briscoe (sic)
- 7. Article entitled, "Only One Still Grinds of Six Which Stood 100 Years Ago," by Douglas Adams, Sun, July 7, 1935. This attributes building to Daniell Massey in 1760, rather than Thomas Gilpin in 1764, as in Kent Shoreman.

MILLINGTON MERCHANT MILLS (1)

Prop., J. Wesley Jarman, finest brands of flour. On millrace on Queen Anne and Kent County Railroad near Chester River, atlas. Same as Higman-Hillington Hill, q.v.

MILLINGTON MILLPOND (/)

"Big Millpond" on Cypress Branch near Millington, per Mater desources map,

John McGrain

Billimore Co. Hist. Soc.

Mach 1971

The Malinography of Kert Co.

(Istaryt 9/67)

Form 10-445 (5/62)

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Kent TOWN Millington VICINITY STREET NO. Rt. 313, (south)

Massey ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE mill (grist) PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE vacant WALL CONSTRUCTION brick NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY K-175

MASSEY MILL Millington Mill 2. NAME

DATE OR PERIOD 18th century colonial STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

no OPEN TO PUBLIC

The only existing 18th century mill structure in Kent County is located in Millington and is supposed to date back to the 1760's and was \$\$\$p\$p\$\$/ first operated by a member of the Massey family, for which family the next town north was named. It stands on the banks of the Cheste r River which is little more than a tidal stream at this point, nearly thirty seven miles from the bay. In the days when the mill was constructed the town was called Head of Chester."

The fenestaration of the mill is irregular throughout. A batten Dutch door is located about center on the west side of with a window above, on the second story. The structure is covered by a nigh "A" roof. On the south gable, the basement is a full story in height which makes the bullding appear quite tall. Throughout common bond is used with vertical header arches above the windows and doors. One the north gable is a hipped roof frame section with a central batten Dutch door flanked by a windows on each side. The over-shot water wheel is located on the east side of the building and was fed by a branch of the River which was dammed up about a mile northeast of the mill. One of the recent owners has made a lake next to the mill and planted shrubbery which makes an attractive setting.

Since the milling operation moved to the railroad in the 1950's, the mill Exterior good 5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered 110 Interior

has been vacant but always maintained.

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

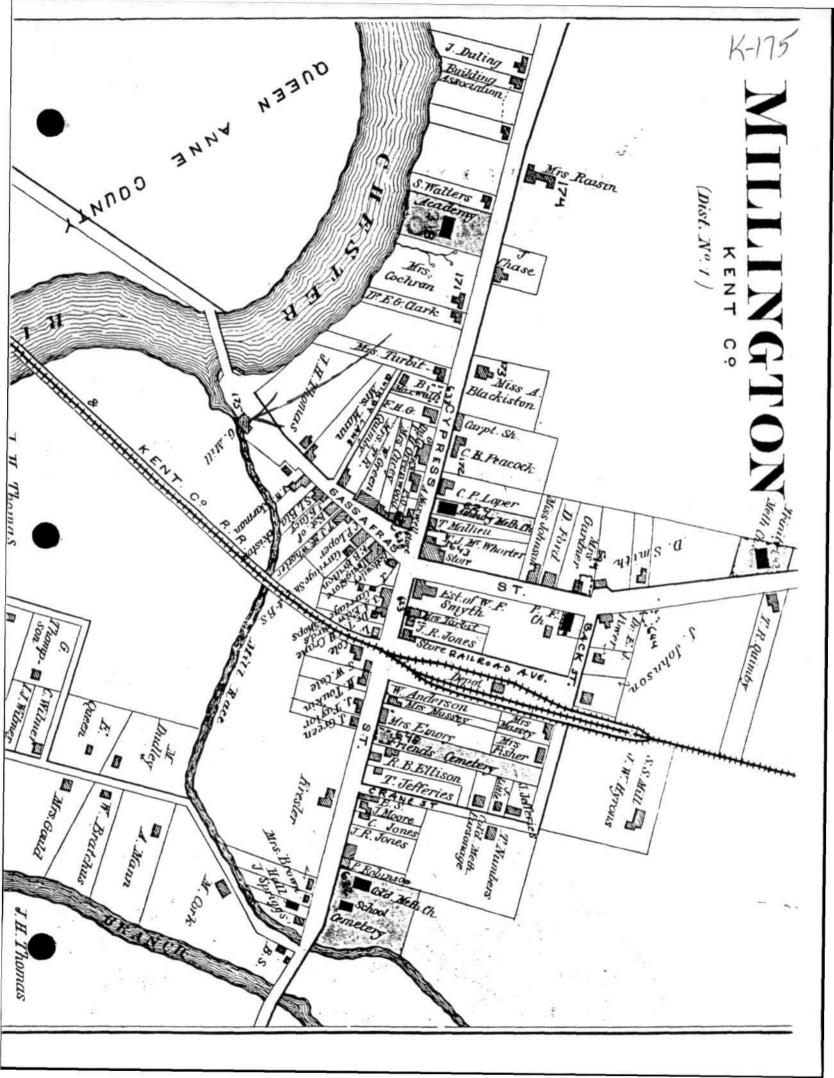
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

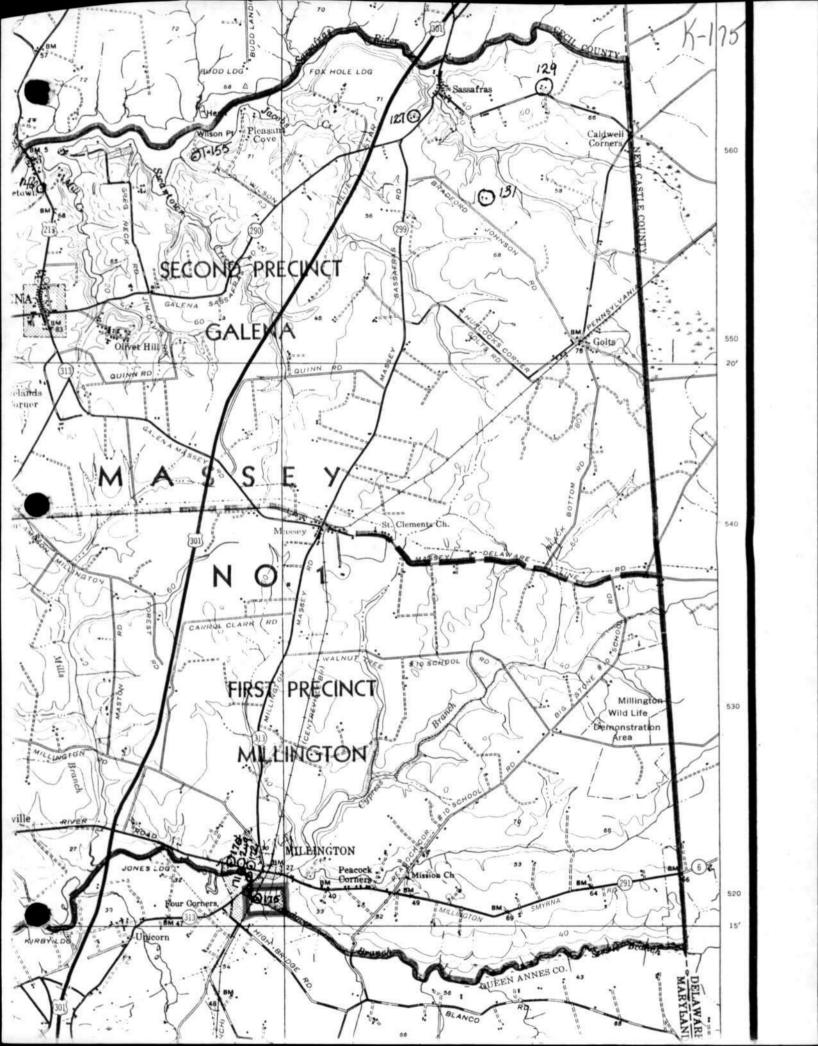
7. PHOTOGRAPH

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Michael Bourne

DATE OF RECORD

Sept. 16, 1968







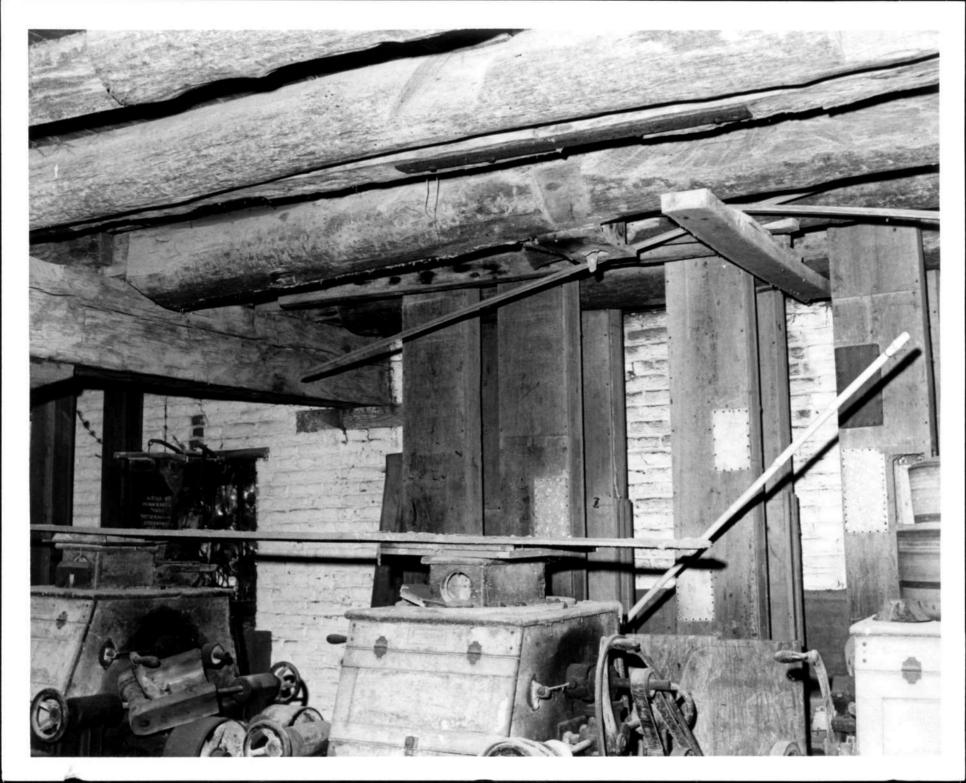
OLD GRIST MILL

RT. 313 AND CHESTER RIVER

MILLINGTON, MD.

EAST SIDE NORTH SIDE

C. ENGSTROM AUG 1979



OLD GRIST MILL

RT 313 AND CHESTER RIVER

MILLINGTON, MD.

MILL INTERIOR

C. ENGSTROM AUG 1977



OLD GRIST MILL MHT-K 175
RT 313 AND CHESTER RIVER
MILLINGTON, MD
WEST SIDE
C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977